U.S. Ser. No. 08/941.45 05058/58201



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. application of:

Takeshi MORIKAWA

For:

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS CAPABLE OF

IMAGE FORMATION IN A PLURALITY OF

MODES

Prior Application:

U.S. Serial No.:

08/941,459

Filed:

September 30, 1997

Group Art Unit:

2722

Examiner:

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

BOX CPA

Assistant Director for

Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EL589919161US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: JANUARY 29, 2001

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> Derrick T. Gordon Name of Person Mailing Paper or

JANUARY 29, 2001

Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following is a preliminary amendment, which is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Continued Prosecution Application. This preliminary amendment also addresses points made in the Examiner's Office Action dated August 29, 2000.

In accordance with the most recent rule changes, amendments to the claims are presented herein by presenting a complete set of pending claims, as amended, in clean form. Also, an Appendix entitled "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made," showing the current amendments to the claims is attached hereto.